GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:105
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2000
IMPROVEMENT IN FORESTS
MOHAMMED SHAHABUDDIN

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to ascertain the present position of forests in the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are number of district which are without forests;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government propose to improve the position of forests in these districts;

(f) if so, the action plan formulated by the Government in this regard; and
(g) if not , the reason therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R.BAALU)

(a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of house .

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PART (a) to (g) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 105 FOR 27.11.2000 REGARI IMPROVEMENT IN FORESTS

(a) Yes, Sir , Forest Survey of India is assessing forest cover of the country using satellite data biennially since 1987.

(b)to (d) The details are given in Annexure.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Details of the action plan of the Government are:

(i) Afforestation programmes are undertaken by State Governments/UT Administrationsfrom their own resources as well as with financial assistance from Government of India.

(ii) Externally aided projects are being implemented for development and preservation of forests.

(iii) Guidelines have been issued to all States/UTs to involve village communities in protection and regeneration of degraded forests.

(iv) Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been enacted to regulate the diversion of forest land for non forestry purposes.

(v) A net work of protected areas has been established.

(vi) Ministry of Environment and Forests has prepared a National Forestry Action Programme to enhance the contribution of forestry and tree resources for ecological stability and people centered development through increased investments i n conservation and development of forest resources.

(g) Does not arise.

ANNEXURE IN RESPECT OF PART (b), (c) & (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 105 FOR 27.11.2000 REGAR IMPROVEMENT OF FORESTS.

State-wise forest cover as per State of Forest Report, 1999

State/UT	Total forest Cover (sq.km)	No. of Districts without discernible forest cover as per State of Forest Report 1999
Andhra Pradesh	44,229	Nil
Arunachal Pra.	68,847	Nil
Assam	23,688	Nil
Bihar	4,830	15
Chhatisgarh	56,693	Nil
Delhi	88	Nil
Goa	1,251	Nil
Gujarat	12,965	Nil
Haryana	964	Nil
Himachal Pra.	13,082	Nil
Jammu & Kashmir	20,441	Nil
Jharkhand	21,644	Nil
Karnataka	32,467	1
Kerala	10,323	Nil
Madhya Pradesh	75,137	1
Maharashtra	46,672	Nil
Manipur	17,384	Nil
Meghalaya	15,633	Nil
Mizoram	18,338	Nil
Nagaland	14,164	Nil
Orissa	47,033	Nil
Punjab	1,412	Nil
Rajasthan	13,871	Nil
Sikkim	3,118	Nil
Tamil Nadu	17,078	Nil
Tripura	5,745	Nil
Uttranchal	23,260	Nil
Uttar Pradesh	10,756	2
West Bengal	8,362	3
A&N Islands	7,606	Nil
Chandigarh	7	Nil
D & N Haveli	202	Nil
Daman & Diu	3	Nil
Lakshdweep	0	1
Pondicherry	0	4
Total	637,293	27 No discernible forest cover.